"Dreamcatcher": Sampling the Strength of Bolivian Youth

On April 25, PAT television network will start broadcasting a series entitled "Dreamcatcher" (Atrapasueños), telling 10 stories of Bolivian youngsters and adolescents striving to fulfill their deepest desires. The government of the United States, through USAID, financed the production of the series developed by the Center of Communication in support of the Ministry of Health's Adolescence and Youth Program.

The series is part of a national strategy seeking the comprehensive health development of Bolivian adolescents. The strategy's objective is to open spaces for adolescents to strengthen their self-esteem, develop their abilities, make decisions and exercise their rights in the field of health.

The ten stories of "Dreamcatcher" were directed by four of the most respected Bolivian filmmakers: Paolo Agazzi, Antonio Eguino, Rodrigo Quiroga, and Guillermo Ruiz. Each 25-minute chapter is based on the experiences of adolescents and youngsters reflecting on their realities and on how they build a future for themselves.

A part of Title II food programs, the annual cooperation of USAID to Bolivia in the area of health reaches approximately US\$31 million and is part of an annual overall assistance to Bolivia through USAID of over US\$100 million. These funds are destined to strengthen the areas of democracy, environment, alternative development, economic opportunities.